

A vibrant field of purple lupine flowers in full bloom, standing tall on dark stems. The flowers are densely packed along the stems. Interspersed among the purple flowers are smaller, bright yellow wildflowers. The background is a dense thicket of tall, green grass, some of which is slightly out of focus, creating a sense of depth. The overall scene is a lush, natural landscape.

HOG WASH

BOOK THIRTEEN

Photo Stories
by
David G. Seibold

HOG WASH
Book Thirteen

A series of photographic stories

By David G. Seibold

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ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

I would like thank my wife, Shari Seibold (<http://www.shariseibold.us>), for all of her encouragement and patience.

Hog Wash is an ongoing series. This is book thirteen which means, follow me now, there were twelve before it. Currently, photos and stories are going into book thirty-four. So, there is a bunch and I probably won't be around long enough to publish all of them whatever all of them turns out to be. I've slowed down a bit on the stories due to time. Can you believe it? Retired and time is an issue. I generate material for a book about every 50-90 days.

Full resolution photos used in this book can be found at <http://www.davidseibold.us>.

Disclaimer: Almost none of the stories in this book are true. Every once in awhile, I'll slip up and include something that is true, but, I would take everything with a grain of salt. As you read this book, keep in mind that I have made an attempt to include something for everyone. Some folks are always looking for errors. So, if you find any, please remember that they are there for a reason.

Table of Contents

	Page		Page
COPYRIGHT		Shish Kabob	28
ACKNOWLEDGMENTS		Miscalculation	29
Welcome	1	Headwaters	30
Nothing Fishy Here	2	Education	31
Time (p)	3	Mountain Cuisine	32
Nature Sounds	4	Wet Paws	33
Meetup	5	Imagine Green	34
Leave 'Em Alone	6	Dying	35
Joy	7	Oops!	36
Busy Time	8	Another Day	37
Waiting For The Light	9	Uneasy	38
Close, But, Not	10	Clean Up	39
Left Behind	11	Little Things	40
They Will Come	12	A Brief Public Service	41
Birds Of Pray	13	Sly Businessman	42
Hillside Rivals	14	Quandry	43
Bloom Begins	15	Could Be Utopia	44
On The Edge	16	Misjudged	45
Day Dreams	17	Punch	46
Peeled and Tangled	18	What Dat?	47
Night Crawler	19	Between Writes	48
Better On The Outside	20	Rarely	49
Daikokuya Ramen	21	Boredom	50
Lit	22	AFTERMATH	51
Sticky Situation	23		
Epic	24		
February 1942	25		
Ding-A-Ling	26		
Cantankerous	27		

Welcome



Rocks generally lead a boring existence. Well, except maybe during earthquakes. So, rocks look forward each year to the poppy invasion. Poppies know how to party!

Bena Road, Kern County, California 2004

Nothing Fishy Here (p)



It wasn't until Felix's Mom was on her death bed that he found out he really wasn't a fish. Felix was heart broken to discover he would never swim up creeks. Momma lied!

Bakersfield, California 2005

Time (p)



Precisely at 1:08 P.M. every day, the ghost of Henry L. Pittock stands at the corner of SW Washington Street. Nobody knows why and Henry isn't talking.

Portland, Oregon 2015

Nature Sounds



Horace likes to wander the foothills and mountains. The sound of the wind blowing through the grass, insects buzzing, cows mooing, the rumble of nitro testing and funny cars. WTF? Horace forgot about the March Meets at Famoso.

Breckenridge Road, Kern County, California 2016

Meetup



The local rocks are avid students of history. They get together once a month to recreate things out of the past. This particular meeting was an attempt to reenact the great pyramids. According to the fiddleneck, the rocks didn't do too well.

Breckenridge Road, Kern County, California 2016

Leave 'Em Alone



Bovinita didn't understand why she shouldn't eat the nice purple things growing on the hill. Her mom kept telling her not to eat them. Well, after a couple of bites and a lot of buzzing and stinging, Bovinita finally realized what her mom was talking about. Bovinita's mom says the swelling should go down in about a week. Now, if Bovinita can convince her little brother to eat the purple things, she'd be real happy.

Rancheria Road, Kern County, California 2016



Randall loves the Spring. All kinds of different plants pop up and tons of insects buzzing around. Randall can lie in the grasses and soak up the Sun all day long. Once in a while, Randall gets to bite a photograher when they get too close. Snakes like that and photographers run funny when they get bit! Randall has a good laugh when he bites.

Rancheria Road, Kern County, Californai 2016

Busy Time



It's the time of the year when orchards are blooming in Kern County and everyone is out photographing despite the posted no trespassing signs. It appears the local farmers are congenial as long as no damage is done to the trees. Besides, someone might find a body or two and the bees have a huge number of targets.

Bakersfield, California 2016

Waiting For The Light



HD confuses me. Are we talking Harley-Davidson, hard drive, high definition, Home Depot or hairy dogs?

Passenger side drive-by shooting, but, stationary for a moment.

Bakersfield, California 2016

Close, But, Not



I had to get on a step ladder to get this shot of the moon. Four feet makes a huge difference with the lens I have.

Bakersfield, California 2016

Left Behind



The last time anyone saw Bill, was on this road. Hector was following Bill when a bright light appeared ahead of Bill and poof, just like that, Bill and his car were gone. Hector still doesn't know what happened, but, visits this spot regularly to watch the trains. It's just one of many local mysteries like the day Tex's cow, Elsie, plowed 20 acres with the old Deere!

Tehachapi Loop area, Kern County, California 2016

They Will Come



Clem had a few odds-n-ends lying around the ranch, so, he put these signs together and stuck them in the ground across from the Post Office. People started showing up looking for something to eat or to refuel their vehicles. Clem thought, "Well, shucks. Maybe a cafe and gas tank wouldn't be a bad idea."

Keene, California 2016

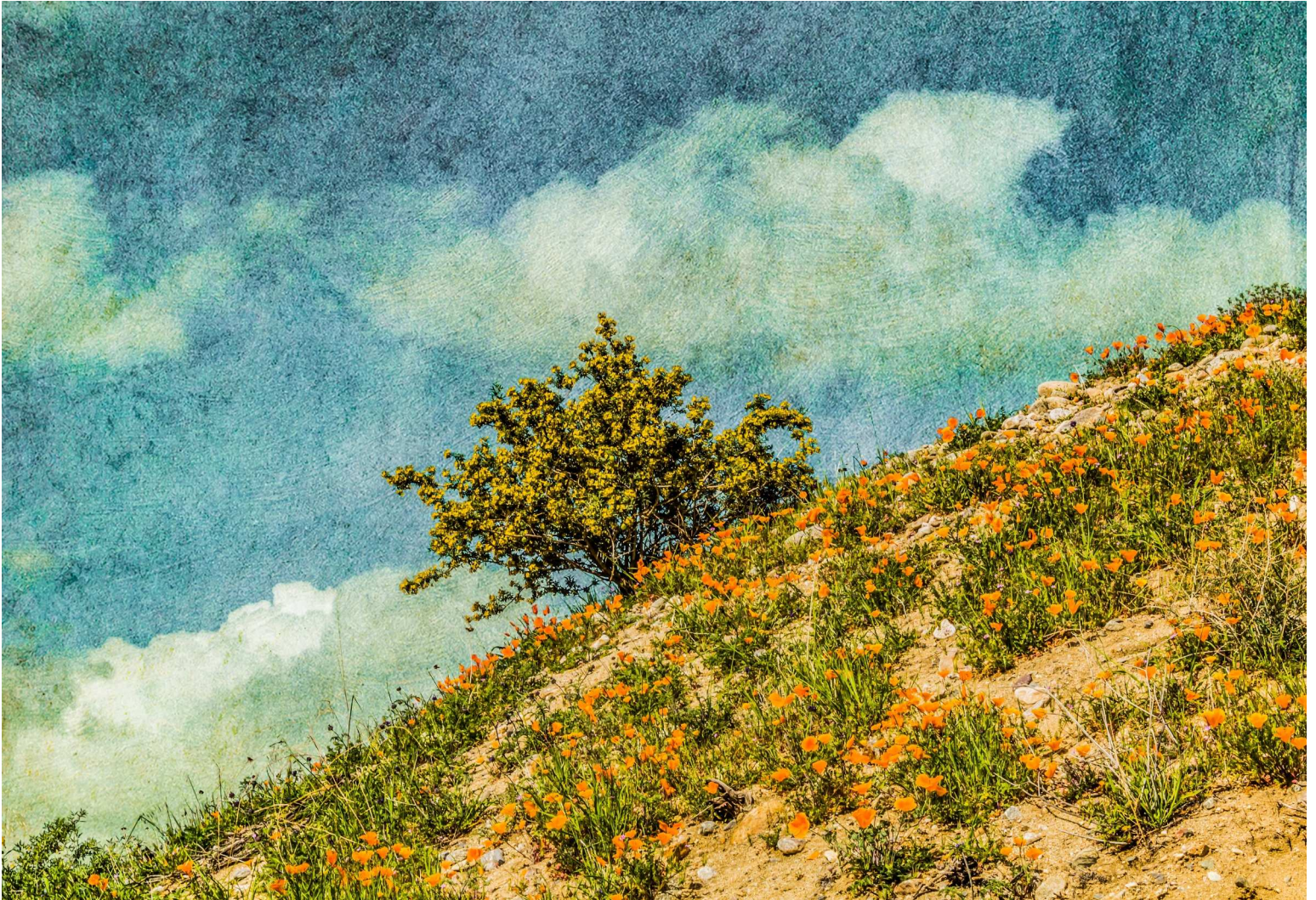
Birds Of Pray



All birds in the San Joaquin Valley eventually land here. It's a great place to look out over the southern end of the valley if the smog permits. It's also a great place to poop.

Hwy 223, Kern County, California 2016

Hillside Rivals



There is always an ongoing battle between bladderpods and poppies. Poppies prefer hillsides and, thus, do not like other plants infringing. But, bladderpods also like hillsides and they are much larger than poppies. Bladderpods are bullies at times, but, the poppies are hardy and can take the heat.

Bena Road, Kern County, California 2016

Bloom Begins



Air pollution in the San Joaquin Valley has taken a dramatic upswing in the last week or so due to the number of photographers and gawkers out shooting or viewing wildflowers. It's not the vehicle exhaust increasing the pollution, it's the people farting in the wind.

Bena Road, Kern County, California 2016

On The Edge



Meet Fen C. Epost. He's hung out on this hill for a number of years now. He's been through wire piercings, droughts, fires, coyote skinning and photographer assaults. He's a tough dude. I suspect he'll be around for a while longer.

Bena Road, Kern County, California 2016

Day Dreams



Wildflowers are smart. The best ones are always on the other side of a fence. Usually, a barbed-wire fence. They do that to antagonize people. This particular day, the poppies were not only on the other side of a valley, the best ones were on the other side of a mountain lazily rocking in the breeze! No stems, no seeds, just California gold.

Bena Road, Kern County, California 2016

Peeled and Tangled



Rive R. Birch is very self-conscious about his appearance. He doesn't like the Fall and Winter months because he is completely exposed showing his scraggly hair and cracking skin. To make things worse, the local squirrels agree. But, the squirrels are more concerned about the neighborhood dogs being able to spot them easier during those times of the year. Personally, I think Rive's true character comes through and I like it.

Bakersfield, California 2016

Night Crawler



He walks the night searching for the unsuspected.

Los Angeles, California 2016

Better On The Outside



Things roam the night. They are mostly harmless. Armed with cameras.

Downtown Los Angeles, California
2016

Daikokuya Ramen



Get there early or expect a line, although, the wait is worth it.

Little Tokyo, Los Angeles, California 2016



Titus had an electric aura about him. One of his parlor tricks was to lie down and energize festoon lighting while everyone went, "ooh, ahh" and sipped on their drinks. A lot of his friends wanted him to move in with them rent free if he would energize their homes for them. Eventually, Titus had to confess that he used a hidden remote that worked with a receiver installed in the lighting circuit. Titus had to start buying his own drinks after that revelation.

Little Tokyo, Los Angeles, California 2016

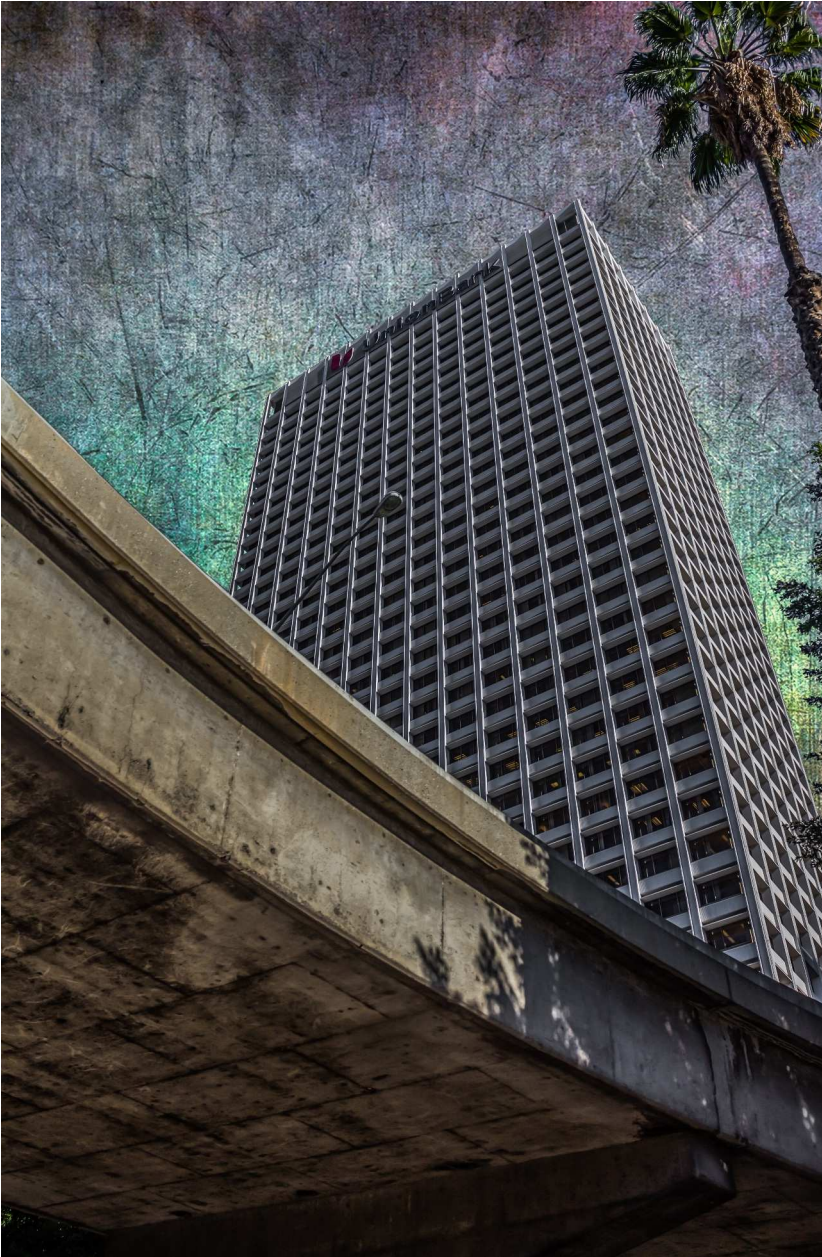
Sticky Situation



Larry had a problem. He licked stickers. Now, normally, that wasn't an issue. But, Larry licked stickers that were already stuck by other sticker stickers. One minute he'd be talking and the next he'd be jumping up and down licking stickers. One thing about it, Larry was a gifted sticker lick.

Little Tokyo, Los Angeles, California 2016

Epic



Storm Oakley knew what a tsunami was, but, never dreamed he'd catch a ride of a lifetime on one. Storm was minding his own business off the Santa Monica Pier when the big one came in. All he had time to do was scream, "Akaw!" The next thing he knew, he was charging through downtown Los Angeles about 16 miles away! Storm was stoked.

Drive-by shooting.

Downtown Los Angeles, California 2016

February 1942



The first Japanese Americans on the West Coast to be forcefully removed from their homes after Pearl Harbor. They were forced to evacuate their homes within 48 hours. However, they were not the only Terminal Island residents forced to leave. All residents on the island were removed regardless of heritage.

Terminal Island Japanese Memorial, San Pedro, California 2016

Ding-A-Ling



It was a good system. Each bell had a different tone which allowed the bell-ringer to communicate to the masses. You know, messages like "time to get up", "time to eat", "bedtime" and so forth. Unfortunately, Oscar thought he was ringing "we are under attack" and instead rang "open the gate". Well, needless to say, Oscar never worked as a bell-ringer again.

Mission San Juan Capistrano, California 2016

Cantankerous



Tison the Streetlight has a real ornery side to him. He's been standing outside this pub for over 90 years. His feet are a little sore and he always has back pain. One thing he loves doing while someone takes a photo is to quickly move in front of the sign. He doesn't care what angle is being shot, he'll move to photo bomb the sign. He claims his action is the only fun he gets in an otherwise boring existence!

Balboa Island, California 2016

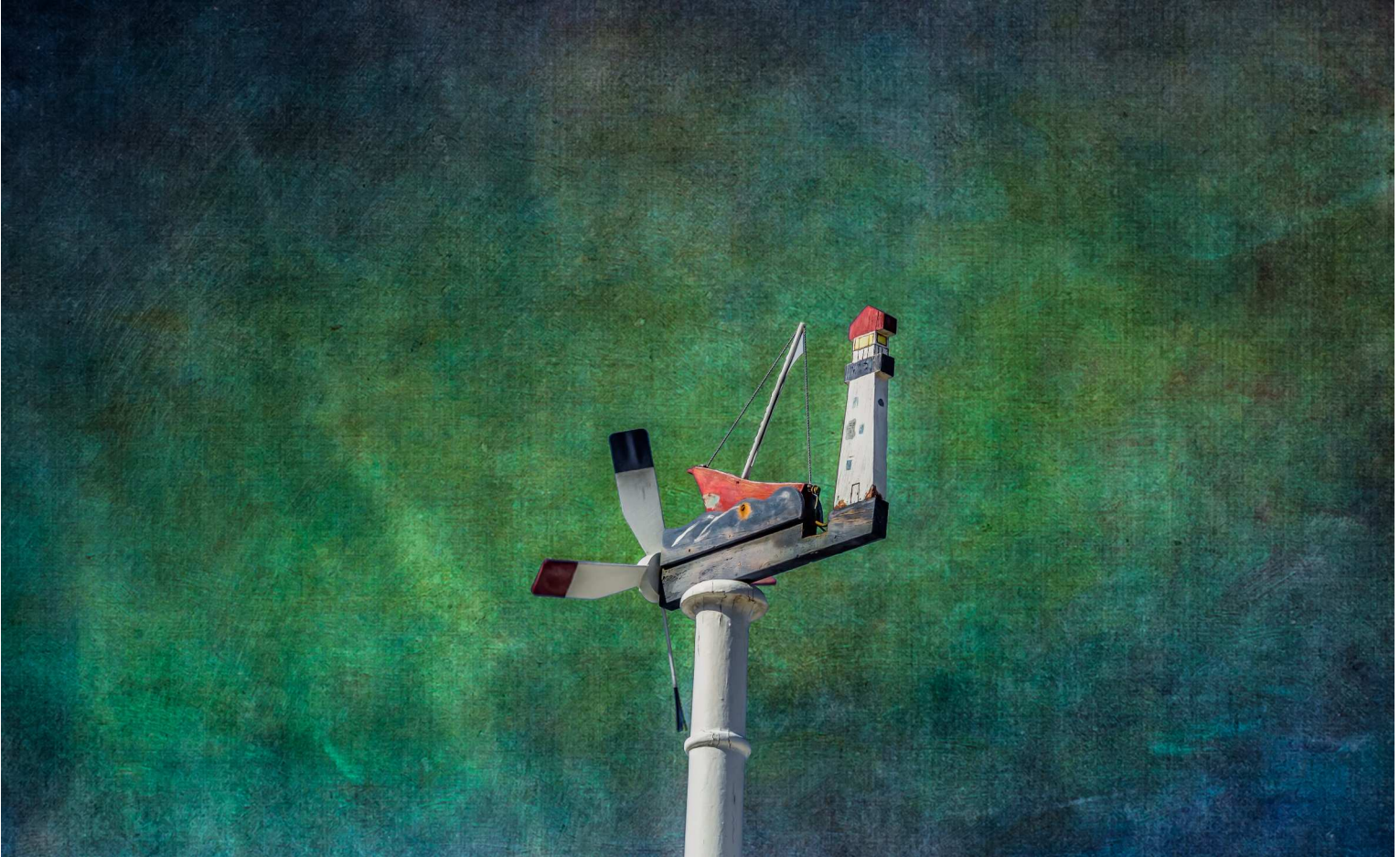
Shish Kabob



Physeter was a heck of a jumper. He was so good, he tried out for the 2016 Summer Olympics high jump. Unfortunately, on his last jump, he was speared by a weather vane while attempting to jump over a house. Another dream dashed!

Balboa Island, California 2016

Miscalculation



In 1892, Gustav Wrightwhite designed a flying machine. He got it off the ground long enough to discover that the landing gear was much too long to allow landing. He went back to his original occupation of designing lighthouses.

The above story is fictitious.

Balboa Island, California 2016

Headwaters



Depending on the rain and snowfall, between February and April, if you sit and wait, you will catch a glimpse of bears body surfing the streams originating in the Sierras. It doesn't happen too often, primarily depending on weather and how much body fat the bears have.

The above story is hog wash!

Tulare County, California 2016

Education



George thought to himself that this was the perfect location for his new home. The rocks would be a great place to get some sun and provide a great lookout post. Unfortunately, George the Ground Squirrel dug his new home directly under the pile of rock and the earth collapsed crushing poor George. George should have finished a few of the engineering courses he started.

Tulare County, California 2016

Mountain Cuisine



The day was January 16, 1843. The first domesticated canine went missing. In the following three weeks, every single dog had vanished. Morton the Mountain Lion was one happy fat cat!

Camp Nelson, California 2016

Wet Paws



This is the infamous poop trail. Folks take their canines out to crap in the woods. Most people pick up the mess, but, some, leave it for the really hungry dogs. Today, there are no dogs walking the trail probably because there are no bipeds willing to stomp around in the snow. Or, it could be because Barney the mountain lion has been seen in the area. Barney likes dog poop, dogs and people. Particularly, dogs, raw!

Camp Nelson, California 2016

Imagine Green



Unfortunately, California's drought (and other states) over the past four years has weakened trees and allowed the bark beetle the opportunity to kill at least 12.5 million trees. Dead trees are flammable which makes the wildfire season more dangerous and, of course, dead trees fall making them a hazard for wildlife, humans and structures. Dead trees affect water quality by allowing more runoff to make it into streams and, there's the carbon sink thing.

All of this could have been avoided if the state had allowed me to cut down trees and burn them in my fireplace. Kidding. No, I'm not. Since the logging industry has been drastically reduced over the years, the resources to drop and remove dead trees doesn't exist. Grab your asses, folks, and stay out of the forests.

Camp Nelson, California 2016

Dying



Drought and bark beetles are winning.

Camp Nelson, California 2016

Oops!



Penile Gigantus prided himself on all his piercings. However, after a long night of partying, Penile realized something had gone horribly wrong with his latest piercing. He might have underestimated the ratio between his mass and the elasticity of certain body parts. Tequila will do that to you.

Camp Nelson, California 2016

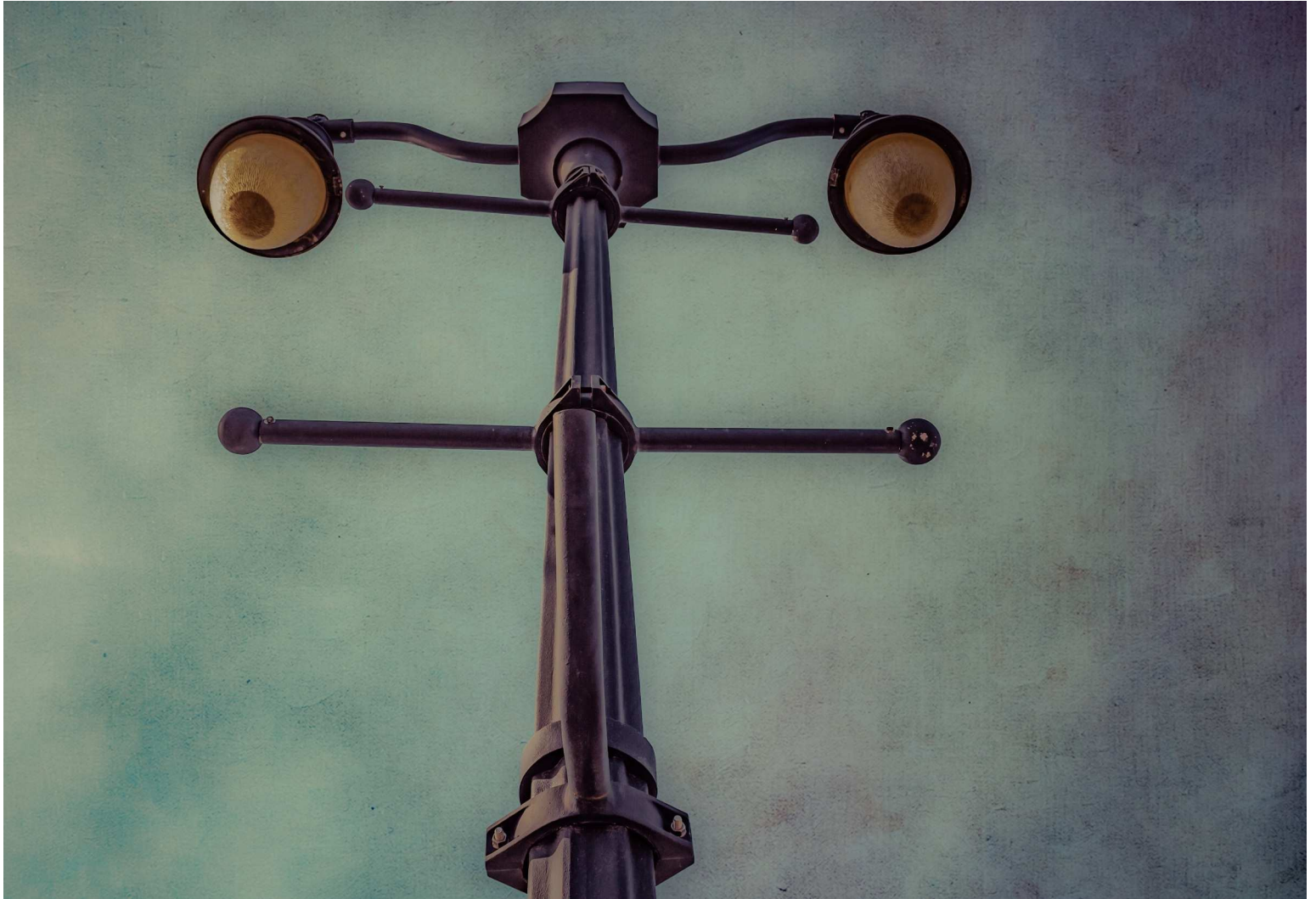
Another Day



Russell was convinced the bright lights and thud he heard last night was the result of a UFO hitting the roof. When he checked in daylight, he could see that the ship had already sent an exploratory cable into the house. Russell was a little disturbed. He was also worried that his midnight raid on the chocolate chip cookies had been recorded. There would be hell to pay if his wife saw that footage!

Camp Nelson, California 2016

Uneasy



Freddy had an uneasy feeling. He wasn't quite sure what made the hair on the back of his neck stand up. It was like something was watching him. He looked around, but, didn't see anything. Then he looked up! As his legs folded under him, Freddy was sure he saw the globes jiggling like they were laughing at him.

Shafter, California 2016



Always Glad and Handy Raggs had an idea for pantyliners. They worked for a long time perfecting the product and released it with the name, Sop-Ups. Well, it didn't go over very well, so, Always and Handy opened a store and specialized in new and used home decor. They are still using their supply of Sop-Ups for dusting.

The above story is fictitious.

Shafter, California 2016

Little Things



William and Mary don't get to town very often. Maybe, once every two or three years. Mary was ecstatic to learn there was a new furniture store. William had promised they could get a bed so they didn't have to sleep with the horses. They will still be in the barn, but, on a bed instead of hay.

Shafter, California 2016

A Brief Public Service

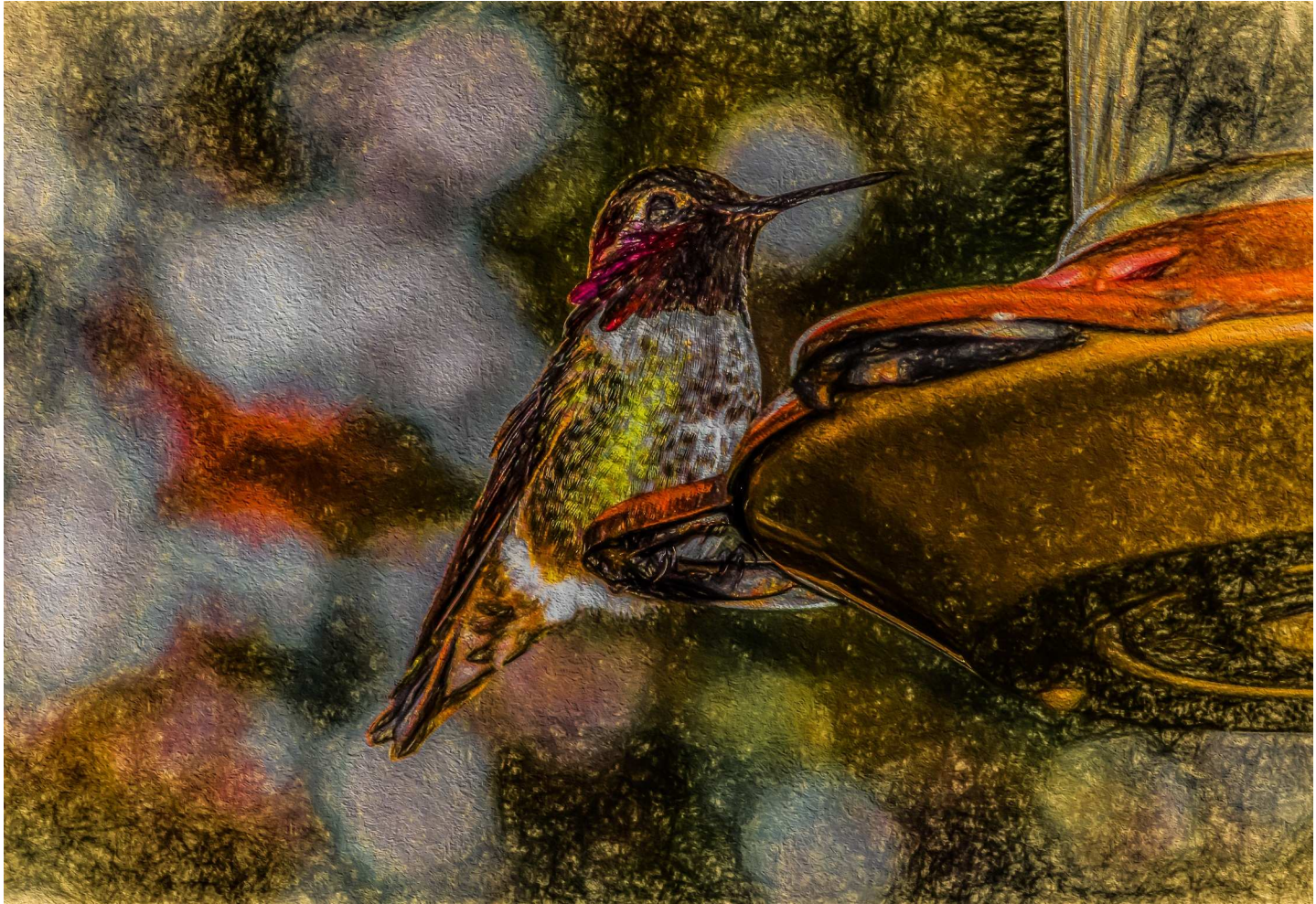


Air beetles, not to be confused with the beatles or air guitar beetles, often attack oxygen rich atmospheres already weakened by smog. If you observe patterns like these depicted in the photograph, please check your medications and regulate the ingestion of mushrooms.

The story above is hog wash except the part about checking your medications.

Bakersfield, California 2016

Sly Businessman



Trochilidae is quite the businessman. He charges for each sitting until the project is completed. If you are familiar with hummingbirds, you know they don't sit very long. Trochilidae will intentionally twist and turn in the light making it more difficult for the artist to capture his true colors. Trochilidae does not allow cameras during his sittings. The artist must work while Trochilidae is sitting. Trochilidae is raking in the dough, believe me!

Photo rendered in Topaz impression.

Bakersfield, California 2016

Quandry



Camelo P. Ardalis rarely ventured out in the daytime. He found that other animals bumped into him during the day because they couldn't see him or if they did see him, he was so faint that they thought he was a serengeti ghost. Most animals only saw his legs during the day which was kind of freaky for them and Camelo, being sensitive to the feelings of others, would apologize profusely which really disturbed the other animals; talking legs! So, Camelo, resigned himself to mostly night prowling, but, nights also caused issues. Vampires were continuously trying to bite him and fireflies were always trying to mate with him!

California Living Museum, Kern County, California 2016

Could Be Utopia



Eventually, Max tired of spending four-and-a-half hours in makeup, wearing shiny black suits, stuttering and Ray-Ban Wayfarer sunglasses. So, he left England and traveled around the United States looking for something different.

After ten years of roaming, Max found a town he liked and opened a smoke shop. He's been chillin' ever since.

(As usual, everything above is fictitious.)

Willits, California 2015

Misjudged

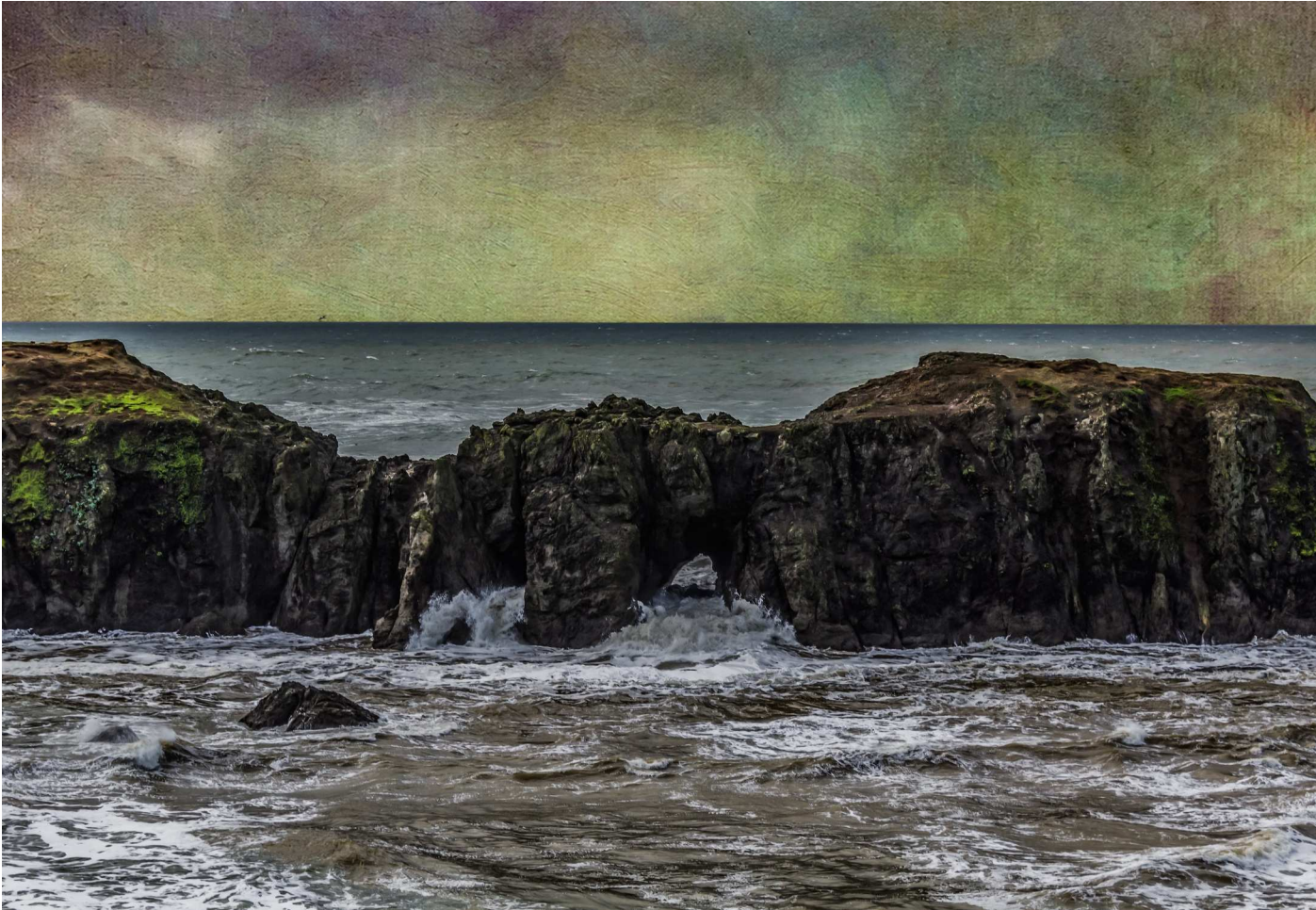


Lawrence had been hauling loads by himself for a couple of weeks. He saw the sign and quickly calculated his load was 14'-6", so, as long as he didn't bounce bad under the bridge, he would be okay. Unfortunately, Lawrence forgot about the 3 feet his load was above the ground. It was a long night for the cleanup crews scooping molasses off the highway.

Not one bit of truth to the above story. Truckers are very conscientious.

Hwy 101, Oregon 2015

Punch



Lord George Bennett founded the town of Bandon, Oregon in 1873. He was an avid surfer, but, he wasn't very good. He would ride heavy planks and almost always crashed into these rocks. But, he never gave up! After many years of pounding rock, George's plank finally punched a hole in the formation. It is now called George Plank Arch. Due to the torrential amounts of rain in Oregon the past month, everything that can drain into the Pacific Ocean is working overtime. There is so much soil and debris entering the ocean that the water is temporarily colored brown for a distance of at least one half mile (0.805 km) from shore.

(The part about George being a surfer is fictional. He did found Bandon and planted gorse everywhere, but, that's another story.)

What Dat?



Shari and I left Eugene, Oregon Monday morning to head back to California. We opted out on attempting I-5 through Winter weather warnings and took the coastal route down Hwy 101. Rain all the way to Eureka, California except for 45 minutes. We made it home to Bakersfield, California on Tuesday after a long day on the road.

Brandon, Oregon 2015

Between Writes



Camelopardalis is an author. He has writer's block at the moment and finds that, usually, if he relaxes and reads books by other authors, he will normally unblock within a few weeks or months. Right now, he is enjoying books by John Scalzi, Rick Wayne, and Ksenia Anske to name a few.

Eugene, Oregon 2015

Rarely



40-50 years ago, I was known to party all night and go to work the next day. For the past 39 years, I have rarely done that. I can remember when I was wooing Shari, there were a few nights when that happened. Well, I work tomorrow and we went to see The Brian Setzer Orchestra this evening. I'm going to be dog tired in the morning not just because of tonight, but, because I didn't sleep much last night. Probably because I'm fretting about whether all our ducks are in a row when I retire December 31, 2015. Anyway, we had a wonderful night of entertainment and once I'm retired, it wouldn't surprise me if late nights became a common occurrence for entertainment and definitely, photography. I will be able to take naps any time I want! iPhone shot, poor quality, but a remembrance)

Bakersfield, California 2015

Boredom



Old Seymour has been on this hill a long time. He gets bored, so, to liven things up, he'll grab a grazing cow and toss it down in the ravine. Scares the heck out of the cow and usually turns her milk sour, but, Seymour gets a kick out of it!

Rancheria Road, Kern County, California 2016

AFTERMATH

Shari and I are really enjoying living in Washington State, USA. We have passed two years of residence and love that there are actually four seasons. The summer months can get a little warmer than we would like and that nasty Sun sometimes pokes it's eye out for more days in a row than we would like, but, that's what air conditioning is for. Vegetation grows really fast in the Pacific Northwest, which, means I spend a lot of time outside whacking on things so we don't get overgrown. Naturally, the outside chores reduce the time I have to work on photos, but, at least for the moment, I can do the outside work. It's all good! By the way, we had our property surveyed. I now have less stuff to whack outside!

If you are so inclined, hi-res versions of the photos included in the book are available at <http://www.davidseibold.us>.

Thank you so much for taking time to read ***Hog Wash Book Thirteen.***

Disclaimer: Remember, almost nothing in this book is true and the mistakes are there for those who like finding them.



